

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CARACA 09577 092129Z

60

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 L-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

AID-20 EB-11 PC-04 DRC-01 /111 W

----- 083426

R 092035Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1740

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 9577

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PINT VE

SUBJECT: VENEZUELAN ELECTION CAMPAIGN: PRESIDENT CALDERA DEFENDS
POWDERED MILK SEIZURE

REF: CARACAS 9447

1. AT HIS NOVEMBER 9 NEWS CONFERENCE PRESIDENT CALDERA STRONGLY DEFENDED THE ACTIONS OF THE GOVERNOR OF ZULIA AND OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN THE SEIZURE OF POWDERED MILK (REFTEL). HE IMPLIED THAT THERE ARE GROUNDS FOR SUSPICIONS THAT THE MILK WAS BEING HOARDED BY NOTING THAT ILAPECA, THE FIRM OWNING THE MILK, APPARENTLY HAD PLENTY OF UNUSED SPACE IN ITS REGULAR WAREHOUSES, LEAVING NO LEGITIMATE REASON FOR THE MILK TO BE STORED WHERE IT WAS. HE ALSO CALLED ATTENTION TO PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWING AN AD DEPUTY PHYSICALLY TRYING TO PREVENT THE AUTHORITIES FROM SEIZING THE MILK. HE INDICATED THAT AN INVESTIGATION OF THE CASE BY THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT WOULD CONTINUE.

2. COMMENT: CALDERA'S STRONG PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THE COPEI POSITION IN THIS HIGHLY PARTISAN FRAY IS UNUSUAL, IN THAT HE HAS NORMALLY TRIED (PUBLICLY) TO STAY OUT OF AD-COPEI POLITICAL SQUABBLES, AND IT WILL NO DOUBT PROVOKE A STRONG REJOINDER FROM AD. AD HAS BEEN PRESSING FOR A QUICK INVESTIGATION AND RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUE BY THE INVESTIGATIVE BODIES (THE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CARACA 09577 092129Z

MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT AS WELL AS THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY

GENERAL), BUT CALDERA'S STATEMENTS SEEM TO INDICATE THAT
THE INVESTIGATIONS WILL CONTINUE FOR SOME TIME, WHILE COPEI TRIES
TO REAP THE ELECTORAL DIVIDENDS.
MCCLINTOCK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CARACA09577
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731145/aaaabgrh.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: CARACAS 9447
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <14 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VENEZUELAN ELECTION CAMPAIGN: PRESIDENT CALDERA DEFENDS POWDERED MILK SEIZURE
TAGS: PINT, VE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005